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an optical network node for converting the communication data from a digital optical state to a digital electrical state;
a fiber optic communication medium configured to transfer the communication data between the telecommunications service provider and the optical network node; and
an electrical power source configured to supply an electrical supply voltage to power the optical network node, the electrical power source comprising an alarm system configured to monitor the operation of the electrical power source and transmit electrical power source operation information to the telecommunications service provider.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electrical power source is located proximate to the optical network node.

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Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electrical power source is remote from the optical network node and supplies power to a plurality of optical network nodes.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electrical power source is located proximate to the telecommunications service provider.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

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7. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electrical power source is located proximate to a digital loop carrier.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

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11. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the electrical power source comprises a plurality of rectifiers, a plurality of converters, a plurality of current limiters, and a plurality of batteries configured to supply the DC voltage to the power source.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

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13. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising one or more conducting mediums configured to connect the alarm system in the electrical power source to the optical network node for relaying power source operation information to the telecommunications service provider over the fiber optic communication medium.

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

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14. (Five Times Amended) A method for powering one or more devices in a fiber optic communication network, which transmits communication data between a telecommunications service provider and a user device, the method comprising:

- transferring digital communication data between the telecommunications service provider and an optical network node;
- converting the digital communication data from an optical state to an electrical state using the optical network node;
- transmitting an electrical supply voltage from an electrical power source to the optical network node;
- an alarm system in the electrical power source monitoring the operation of the electrical power source; and
- transmitting electrical power source operation information from the alarm system to the telecommunications service provider.

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Please amend claim 17 as follows:

17. (Once Amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the electrical power source comprises an AC power feed for providing power to the electrical power source during normal operation and a DC power feed for providing power to the power source when the AC power feed is inoperable.

Please amend claim 22 as follows:

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22. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the step of transmitting electrical power source operation information from the alarm system to the telecommunications service provider comprises transmitting alarm signals to the telecommunications service provider.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

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23. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the step of transmitting electrical power source operation information from the alarm system to the telecommunications service provider comprises transmitting power level and operational data to the telecommunications service provider.

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the step of transmitting an electrical supply voltage from an electrical power source to the optical network node comprises an AC power feed supplying power to the electrical power source during normal operation and a DC power feed supplying power to the electrical power source when the AC power feed is inoperable.

Please amend claim 27 as follows:

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27. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electrical power source operation information is selected from a group consisting of information about an AC power source, information about a rectifier's voltage, information about a converter's voltage, and information about a current limiter's current.

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Please amend claim 28 as follows:

28. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein monitoring the operation of the electrical power source comprises monitoring information selected from a group consisting of information about an AC power source, information about a rectifier's voltage, information about a converter's voltage, and information about a current limiter's current.